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FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1916.

A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year.

By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS.

First printing of an original poem, written daily for The Washington Herald.

OUT OF THE MIRE.

Deep in a miry black morass
He floundered, yet it came to pass
Some good in him he did not know
Soon fructified from stress of woe
And by misfortune darkly doomed
Like some fair Lily-bud he bloomed
And reached the stars of which he dreamed
Redeemed!

(Copyright, 1914.)

Amundsen is to undertake an expedition to the North Pole in a 100-ton motor vessel. Wonder how he will raise the gasoline fund?

Those frequent changes in the form of government in China must compel Yuan Shi-Kai to order his stationery in very small quantities.

Many of Carranza's soldiers are said to be shorter than their rifles. About as short as a government clerk the day before pay day, probably.

A Pennsylvania man has sued his boarder for \$5,000 on alienation of his wife's affection, and the chances are that the defendant owes for his board, too.

The night watchmen of Washington celebrated their eleventh anniversary on Wednesday afternoon, retiring to their posts of duty upon the close of the festivities, well before sunset.

Abuse of the franking privilege is said to cost the government many thousands of dollars a year, to say nothing of the annoyance caused unoffending, but helpless residents in the R. F. D. districts.

Daily developments in Mexico indicate plainly the folly of the La Follette resolution, apologizing and explaining to the Carranza government, which the Senate was stampeded into adopting last week.

The Federal Trade Commission wants an advisory board to assist it in settling big economic questions. And to think that the need of a Federal Trade Commission was discovered only recently.

Administration officials are worrying now about where to get the money to pay the expenses of the Villa expedition. Possibly it could be borrowed from the Carnegie peace endowment, the operations of which must have been somewhat restricted in the past year and a half.

The punitive expedition into Mexico has already done this country good service. It has demonstrated serious defects in the army motor truck equipment and radio and telegraph service, and has doubtless furnished lessons in aviation. Whether he is successful or not Pershing's experience will be an invaluable guide to the strengthening of our fighting forces on land.

According to dispatches Villa is sending couriers with messages of defiance to the Americans on the border. The couriers it is said "succeeded in passing by Carranza troops in night dashes." The imaginative correspondents should go further and tell how the couriers have been subjected to the third degree and compelled to give our soldiers valuable information concerning Villa and his plans.

It appears that the advice Representative Borah gave the government clerks about resigning was not original. The man who complained to a House committee that he is unable to support a family on the \$40 a month the government pays him for the exhilarating task of digging graves in Arlington Cemetery, added that when he asked for a raise he was told: "If you don't like it you know what you can do."

Secretary Redfield says there are 240 ocean-going steamers under construction in the shipyards of the United States and more are to be built as soon as there is room for them. But since they cannot be operated profitably by private concerns under the La Follette seaman's law, it must be that they are being built for foreign firms, or else for sale to the United States government when the public ownership bill is passed.

Advocates of the use of the public schools as community forums have so far failed to indicate that there is any such demand on the part of the public. Washington has more than a score of associations of citizens who meet regularly and discuss every conceivable subject of civic interest. Their meeting places are in most cases available for the use of other bodies of citizens, at little or no cost on almost any day in the year. Who and where are the citizens seeking forums and why is it that only the public schools will answer their purpose?

Meeting Peril with Peace Talk.

With a pitifully small force of American soldiers engaged in a perilous task in a foreign country and with our Southern border inadequately protected for want of men and munitions Senator Works, of California, addressing the Senate yesterday on "Preparations for Peace," declared: "No more unfortunate, no more dangerous time for even considering or thinking of preparation for war than this could have been chosen." With practically the entire land forces of the United States called into active service as the result of an invasion of our territory and the murder of our citizens; with the position of Gen. Pershing and his soldiers daily becoming more hazardous, and with the country unprepared adequately to reinforce him should sudden emergency arise, Senator Works could see "no present necessity for any considerable increase of our standing army, if any." He could only see the "great corporations and financiers of the country and men engaged in foreign trade and commerce" using their money for the purpose of "subsidizing newspapers and magazines and financing the campaign of fear that has set the nation wild with apprehension of a danger that exists only in imagination."

And to give time for such babble the Senate put aside Mr. Buchanan's resolution authorizing the President to issue a call for 50,000 volunteers whose services the nation may have dire need of before many weeks elapse. Fully informed as to all of the needs of the Mexican situation the people may be depended upon to give the right value to Senator Works' words. They will pray that disaster may not come to Pershing and his men, but should the not unexpected blow fall in Mexico while Congress sits complacent, lending eager ear to those who proclaim that all is well because they look no further than today, and providing neither men, money nor munitions for the support of the men who have been sent to avenge the nation's wrongs, the darkest page in American history will have been written.

The Record to Be Purged.

The House of Representatives stands before the country as defying the laws of Congress in printing matter which the statutes bar from the United States mail, and it is not surprising that many members have demanded that the speech of the Hon. Cyclone Davis, of Texas, printed in the Congressional Record yesterday morning, shall be expunged from the permanent record. This speech, never delivered on the floor, but published under the rule of extension of remarks, was of a character to condemn any newspaper or periodical in the eyes of the public and cause the Postmaster General to exclude such publication from the mails.

Strange as it may appear to intelligent men, this speech bears the title "Americanism and Patriotism," and pretends to be in the interest of private moral purity and public virtue; an arraignment of the public press for its misrepresentation of men in public life. But it was filled with such vulgarity and indecency as to raise the question whether the author should be hailed before a lunacy court or the vice squad. Mr. Davis "thanked God there is one paper in the United States which tells the truth about Congressmen and in which they give the people the truth untarnished and in which they can expose the people's enemies." He referred to the Congressional Record which did not belong in the category of "the kept press," and then he wrote the Record down to a plane of indecency such as forty years ago compelled Congress to revise the postal laws to exclude improper matter from the mails.

The apparent purpose in placing this speech in the Record was to make it frankable matter to be sent free through the mails broadcast over the country, to go into the homes where there are women and children who would be compelled to secure a dictionary of vulgarity and obscenity to be able to comprehend just what Mr. Davis thinks about the public press, the money trust, the opponents of prohibition and other enemies of the people. And yet not even Representative Davis would be permitted to send that vulgar diatribe through the mails as first-class matter fully prepared with 2-cent stamps.

Some men who pose as reformers have peculiar conceptions as to what is clean and what is unclean. In the name of patriotism, purity and prohibition they violate all the laws of decency and all the statutes for the protection of private virtue. It is unfortunate for the so-called reform country, that they should so often be imposed upon by men who cannot distinguish between the untarnished truth as presented in the Congressional Record, and as printed in the old Police Gazette.

New Bridge of First Importance.

If the ancient Aqueduct Bridge, which spans the Potomac at the western end of Georgetown and which year after year has been condemned in official reports to Congress as unsafe is not to be replaced until the interested residents of the District of Columbia and Virginia come to unanimous agreement as to the best site for the new one, we may look forward confidently to the day when the old structure is closed to all traffic or puts a climax to its creaking, groaning protests and warnings by toppling into the river. There are some citizens on both sides of the river who demand that the new bridge be erected on the site of the present one, while others insist that the Washington end should be located further east and south and somewhat nearer the center of the city. Apparently no intermediate site is suitable and available, so that compromise by which both factions might be satisfied in a measure is scarcely possible.

Without doubt this conflict of interests and opinions has retarded legislation to provide for a new bridge and it is quite possible to believe that if the citizens had combined their influences and energies and brought them to bear upon Congress a new structure would be well under way if not completed.

At the request of the Secretary of War the District Commissioners will give a hearing next Monday to all residents of Virginia or the District who are interested in the location of the new bridge, and while it is too much to expect that there will be perfect accord, it yet may be hoped that there will be no protests or objections serious enough to constitute an obstacle in the way of an important and urgent undertaking for the common welfare. After all it is not of vital importance to the general public whether the Washington approach to the new bridge is by way of G street, H street or M street. What is of vital importance is the new bridge, and its exact location may safely be left to the determination of the War Department and the District Commissioners. Citizens can accomplish nothing by a top emphatic urging of their views at Monday's hearing. They can further the project, however, by impressing upon members of Congress the dangerous condition of the present bridge and the imperative necessity for the speedy construction of a new one.

In a Continental Restaurant.

By JOHN D. BARRY.

II.

One of our questions in our restaurant talk with our young German officer touched on methods of warfare. It led to a reference to dum-dum bullets. "No, they are not used now on any side. But most of the bullets that are used are as bad or worse. The French are using a bullet balanced in such a way that it is likely to hit flat against the body and cause a very terrible wound, and revolves after it enters the flesh."

Some one spoke of the bayonet charges. Was it true that when a soldier thrust his bayonet into the body of an enemy he turned it in order to make the wound more deadly? It is not true. I have been in bayonet charges and I know. You do not think of twisting the bayonet. You only think of one thing. That is how to kill the man you are fighting with before he can kill you. You are nearly crazy with excitement. If you tried to twist your bayonet, in the melee you'd be likely to lose your balance and your attention would be drawn away from the necessity of protecting yourself on every side. The French, they use the three-cornered bayonet. It does not make a clean wound like ours. It lacerates the flesh on account of the three edges. When the wound closes outside it does not close inside. So the blood congeals and there is likely to be poisoning. The wound has to be reopened and kept open to heal from the inside."

On the subject of prisoners our German friend had much to say. It was plain that he took a philosophical interest in making observations among them. In spite of his frank liking for the French he had to confess that when they were prisoners they disappointed him somewhat; they didn't like to work; they would sit back and refuse to bestir themselves. Perhaps they could see no good reason for aiding the enemy. The Russians, on the contrary, begged for work. There were more than two million Russian prisoners in Germany now. There was not work enough for all of them. Would not any of them stay in Germany after the war? Ah, no! Even if they wanted to stay they would not be allowed. The blood of the Slav must not mix with German blood. The English, they did not make good prisoners, no matter what they were, German traitors, as well as her own soldiers. If you could only see how some of those Russian peasants eat, gentlemen. It is something you could never forget. All the Russian prisoners are made by the German regulations to put their heads in Russia, the German prisoners are treated as well as the Russian soldiers. But most of them are men of some refinement and it is hard for them to eat the coarse food.

It was plain enough that this representative of Germany was deeply and deeply pleased with the war situation as it had shaped itself since the first days. And yet he was frank to say that, in his opinion, Germany must give up Belgium, for the simple reason that the time had gone by for that kind of conquest. He also deplored the sending of the flying squadron to terrorize London with bombs from aeroplanes. "They were not enlisting before. Then they enlisted."

When we tried to get at the direct causes of the war our efforts were very deftly avoided. "There are some things I do not feel I ought to talk about. But way down under the causes that we can see there are causes not so plain. They all amount to this: the people of the different nationalities do not understand one another; they do not see that they are all exactly alike. The German has his ways and he thinks they are the only right ways; to him all other ways are funny. And so it is with the other peoples. They laugh at one another and they look so complicated at one. The best way of making Germany and France understand each other is to send many Germans to France every year to live for a good long time and many Frenchmen to Germany."

We agreed that there was truth here; but one of us argued that it was not the whole truth. Even when two nations understood each other, when they had the same customs and the same language, they had been known to fight. The people of one nation would even fight among themselves. "No, it is not the whole truth; but it is something." We mentioned the people of David Starr Jordan had found this cause among the many other causes of war.

As we talked on we seemed to break through the surface of reality that made our friend so attractive. Perhaps we were tiring him with our questions. At any rate, we saw that beneath the surface he was sad. Something was said about the attitude of women toward the war. "My wife, oh, la, la! It is not safe to speak of the war before her. She is very good. She is devoted to our children. But she has become a little feminist. I do not like that. The home—it is the best place for women."

Where had we heard sentiments of this kind before?

When we asked if there were any hope of stopping the war in the future we met a pessimistic attitude. "The war will lead to other wars. Always there will be war. The people will keep on arming. It will be the same story all over again."

We declared that we knew better. A new spirit had come into the world. This war, besides being the greatest of all wars, was the most detested of all wars. The world was evolving away from war and from all the war implied.

Our words were listened to with gentle amusement. "Perhaps you are right. I hope so. You Americans are good people. You have done wonderful things. If you stop war it will be the most wonderful thing of all."

OUR COUNTRY—
OUR PRESIDENT
A History of the American People
WOODROW WILSON

The Thirteenth Amendment.

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Mr. Lincoln had himself made it a condition precedent to his recognition of the seceded States that they should renounce their southern sympathies and their southern sympathies whom he was ready to permit to bring their States into proper practical relation with the Union. An opposition gathered in the South to the laws of the seceded States, and declared the permanent freedom of the negroes and provide for their education; no one, North or South, dreamed that slavery was to be set up again.

But every man mistook his feeling for principle in that day of heat, and Mr. Lincoln's cool, judicial tone and purpose in affairs was deeply disquieting to all who loved drastic action.

The solemn, sweet-tempered sentences with which his second inaugural address had closed seemed themselves of bad omen to high-strung men.

"With malice towards none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

In the proclamation in which he had called upon all who were willing to return to their allegiance in the South to reconstruct their governments he had promised that, as President, he would object to no temporary legislation which should deal in exceptional cases with the negroes "as a laboring, landless, homeless class" for a little while under tutelage, provided only their substantial freedom should be recognized and their ultimate elevation by education provided for.

There was in all this entirely too much consideration for the southern people to suit the views of ordinary partisans. When it came a second time to the House the issue brooded through all restraint and joined in the great shout of joy that went up from the packed galleries, and embraced one another, with tears streaming down their cheeks, to see that prayed for end come at last.

Men dreamed, as they had dreamed in the Constituent Assembly of France, that they had that day seen a new nation born, a new era ushered in.

Tomorrow: The Masters of Party Strategy.

Under the Microscope
NEW-YORK-DAY-BY-DAY
O. O. MCINTYRE.

New York, March 23.—Leonard Anderson is one of those slickers from Chicago who just adores his profession for its own sake. He came back the other day after a year's visit to relatives in Norway and he just chuckled all the way over on the boat over how he was going to fool all the cronies in Gotham.

While in Norway he did as the Norwegians sometimes do and raised a crop of whiskers which afforded him a disguise that would not result in some crook shouting "take 'em off, let 'em know who you are." He was acting to get to work behind his King Lear and took a room at a cheap hotel near the steamship piers. He donned an immigrant's cap and started joyously to Sherick Holmes around.

Two affable strangers fell into conversation with him. He could hardly keep a straight face as the conversation proceeded. He was sympathetic and interested questioning, he informed them that he had a roll of \$108 in his pocket. It was a delicious situation indeed and he felt it was a joke.

That he felt it for a second or so and then somehow someone turned off the sunshine and he didn't feel anything because one of the affable strangers affably tapped him on the back with a restless blackjack and the other removed the money and verified the amount.

Anderson identified himself with little trouble at the hospital, promptly visited a barber and took the first train in the direction of Chicago.

Anyways, Anderson is the first Broadway actor that ever had the United States declare war on him and hunt him down with an army. Many will admit Villa is a bad actor but few know that he was a bad actor.

It happens that Villa acted in films that were shown in all the Broadway movie houses and that makes him a Broadway actor just as much as the stars who are now in Los Angeles are Broadway stars.

The photoplay has changed the status of acting. A man can pose 3,000 miles away and still be acting in Times Square. That's Villa. He signed a contract to fight all his anti-Huerta battles in the daytime and under favorable camera conditions. All the bulb hounds are there.

OPHELIA'S SLATE.

"How did you lose your last job?" "I was fired for making a mistake." "That seemed unfair. We are all liable to make mistakes." "Yes, but I told the boss that he couldn't get along without me."—Detroit Free Press.

The General—You're a public school boy. I understand, Fortescue? "Fortescue—Yes, sir, Edson and Oxford. And if it hadn't been for this blankety-blankety-blank war I'd have been in Holy Orders by now.—London Sketch.

"I believe you are the same man who was here about a year ago," said the housewife. "Maybe so, mum," replied the tramp. "I was in these parts." "And you haven't found any work to do yet?" "Only what was wished on me, mum by one or two hard-headed judges."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

He—But I asked you, dearest, to keep our engagement a secret for the present. She—I couldn't help it. That hateful Miss Olden said the reason I wasn't married was because no fool had proposed to me, so I up and told her you had.—Boston Transcript.

The minister, not being acquainted with the family, was uncertain how to work out the obituary. Waiting for the bereaved widow, he piled his questions to Johnny. "Ah, my boy, perhaps you can tell me what were your father's last words?" "He didn't have no last words," said Johnny. "Ma stayed with him to the end."—Puck.

DON'T WORRY! IF THEY SLAM DOWN A ZOUND DOLLER IT WILL RING TRUE

WILSON BACK IN CAPITAL.

President Wilson returned to Washington yesterday in time for dinner after a visit to Philadelphia in the morning to consult his cabinet. The President left Washington at 8:30 a. m., traveling on a private car. He was accompanied by Mrs. Wilson.

The President took with him a number of dispatches concerning the Mexican situation which had been sent to the White House by Secretary of War Baker before his departure.

It requires one ton of musk roots to distill one pound of pure attar of roses.

The Herald's Army and Navy Department

Latest and Most Complete News of Service and Personnel Published in Washington.

By E. B. JOHNS.

The differences in opinion of navy officers as to the size of submarine defense that have been developed. One of them originated in the submarine fleet and the other with the general board of the navy.

Under the plans of the general board it is stated the submarines are to be operated exclusively from shore stations. By this plan two lines of submarines would be maintained along the coast at strategic points. For this purpose the smaller type of submarine would be sufficient. They would not only be more economical but would be of greater service in the opinion of the officers of the general board.

A plan was developed on the submarine fleet which would require a larger type of 800 ton submarines. Under the submarine fleet plan the undersea boat would lie out at sea and meet the enemy fleet at a greater distance from shore. Mother boats would be used more extensively and the submarines would not return to the shore stations as frequently.

Officers of the Marine Corps are unanimous in the recommendation of a comprehensive personnel plan for promotion. This was shown in the testimony of Marine Corps officers before the House Committee on Naval Affairs and the report which has been submitted to the Navy Department.

The program includes the maintenance of the strength of the Marine Corps at 20 per cent of that of the navy and an authorization of the number of officers at 4 per cent of the enlisted strength of the Marine Corps. The plan also provides for the line and staff is recommended with the system of detail of line officers to staff duty. All of the officers are to be placed in a single line of promotion.

The reorganization of the Marine Corps band with the provision that it should not accept outside engagements.

Maj. Gen. Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff, was not advised that the Fifth Cavalry had been ordered to the border on March 21 until Col. Wilber E. Wilder, its commander, called at the residence of the chief of staff at Fort Myer to say good-bye. This grows out of the fact that the Fifth Cavalry is being reorganized.

Gen. Funston asked for two additional regiments of infantry, but upon being informed that the cavalry board was in the direction of the cavalry board a squadron of the Second Cavalry has been ordered to the border on March 21.

The cavalry board, which has been in session at the War Department for several weeks, has progressed to that point in the revision of the tentative regulations which it has decided to have some of the features of the proposed regulations given a field test.

This work was in progress when the Fifth Cavalry was ordered to the border. The first test consisted of the trying out of some new elementary platoon movements.

Maj. E. J. Timberlake, Quartermaster Corps, and Capt. F. B. Shaw, Twenty-sixth Infantry, registered at the War Department yesterday.

Military Observers Abroad.

Members of the House and Senate, in the hearings on the proposed appropriations before the various appropriations committees having to do with the funds for the military naval establishments are manifesting much interest in the military regulations which have been revised by the War and Navy Departments from our service observers abroad.

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